Hero Nikita

Brandy, Hugs, Brandy

★ ★ ★

By FRIEDHELM KEMNA

BERLIN (UPI) — Nikita Khrushchev, who has advised Soviet workers to cut down their drinking, was slugging brandies at a rate of one shot every 15 minutes for three hours last night.

In between gulps, the Soviet premier would devour one or two small, spicy sausages, then push on through the crowd to shake some more hands, and hug a few more women.

The younger the women, the tighter Nikita squeezed.

The scene was the reception for 900 prominent Communists, German and foreign, at the sprawling Soviet embassy building on East Berlin's Unter den Linden.

Khrushchev wore a simple black single-breasted suit. His jacket was bedecked with "workers hero" medals.

Six huge buffet tables had been set up in as many rooms, and all had as much business as they could handle.

The pudgy Soviet premier was greeted by the assembled East German dignitaries, then he proceeded to make a speech.

Khrushchev has an odd way of addressing a meeting in a foreign country. He simply starts talking in Russian, and his interpreter starts translating, raising his voice above Khrushchev's.

NIKITA KHRUSHCHEV

Whale of a Time

When Khrushchev gets some momentum, and starts shouting, the interpreter has to bellow to be heard at all. Krushchev and the interpreter usually finish in a dead heat.

As for brandy—the Soviet leader is not a sipper, but rather opens his mouth, raises the glass, and slams its contents down his gullet.

As he made his hand-shaking tour, from time to time, he would snatch another brandy from a passing tray and bolt it down.

"You know, I've told the Russian people to drink less," he said. "But a great man, just because he has a weakness, is none the less a great man."

The "Saxon Lenin," East German Communist boss Walter Ulbricht, stayed within arms reach of Khrushchev for the next three and one-half hours.

Eventually, Khrushchev got into the "Emblem Room," reserved for the most honored guests, and planted himself next to the buffet table.

As guests were introduced, Krushchev would grasp their right hand in both of his and shake it vigorously. If women guests were introduced, Khrushchev would add a hug and a kiss.

MRS. DUNCAN
. . . "not clever enough"

'Who Else Wanted Olga Duncan Dead?'

VENTURA, Calif. (UPI) — Pretty Olga Duncan paid with her life because she loved Frank Duncan, District Attorney Roy Gustafson said yesterday.

Gustafson laboriously plowed through a maze of dates and facts in final arguments in the trial of Elizabeth Duncan, charged with hiring two men to kill her son's pregnant wife.

He said: "She is either guilty of murder in the first degree or nothing. There is no second degree or manslaughter involved."

The penalty for first-degree murder is death or life imprisonment. The case will go to the jury Friday.

Gustafson called Mrs. Duncan "a clever, clever woman but not clever enough," and ripped at her story that she was being blackmailed as "inherently improbable."

He called her son, Frank, "a spineless jellyfish, liar and lady killer who never did love Olga. But she loved Frank and she paid for it with her life. Her marriage certificate turned out to be her death certificate."

Then he asked: "But who else wanted to kill Olga Duncan?"

Mother's Call Meant Death

MANILA (UPI) — Four small children, responding to their 22-year-old mother's screams for help, grabbed and clung to her yesterday when she touched an electric light socket.

All five were electrocuted.

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Panther in Montreal?

Posses Track Glaring Ghost

By ROBERT RICE

MONTREAL (CP)—A ghost animal is prowling the darkened byways of the western outskirts of this metropolis.

It has peered like Peeping Tom at windows, green eyes glaring, waited silently at a lonely wayside railway station, frightened children, set housewives gossiping, husbands hunting and dogs yowling.

Some say it's a panther. Others say it is a wolf. A game warden says it's a deer. And a few say it's just a dog.

But whatever it is, too many people have seen it to dismiss the ghost as a peripatetic poltergeist.

A week ago, Mrs. George Sloan said she saw a large cat-like animal near a shed on the west end of Montreal Island.

That started it.

Hurriedly aroused posses have found tracks in the snow—four toes and a heel pad.

D. J. Cleghorn, a museum curator, said the reports sounded like a panther. He warned that panthers are fond of dogs—to eat.

But Game Warden Edward Kent said that the panther sighted by Mrs. Sloan was a deer.

He cautioned other panther-conscious people in the area about mistaken identity. His wife, he admitted, mistook the family dog for a panther Tuesday.

Panthers have a spine-tingling screech that splinters the night air. In the late 1800's, early settlers nicknamed the panther the "Indian devil" and hunted it because it attacked cattle.

They were so successful that the creature vanished from **Quebec and the Maritime provinces by 1900.**

And then . . . scattered reports of panthers in eastern areas during the last eight years. The animal that one writer called "the North America ghost" seemed to be returning to its old haunts.

Army Stores Harnessed To Boer War

OTTAWA (CP) — Boer War harness was discovered in the defence department during the Second World War, Auditor-General Watson Sellar said yesterday.

He told the Commons public accounts committee this was an example of the "weakness" in central control over the "colossal" amount of public property scattered across the country.

The defence department, said Mr. Sellar, had "colossal quantities of stores, some of which may be obsolete." During the last war, harness was required for pack animals in Italy and officials surprisingly found harness still held over from the South African War.

Rights Violated Indians Protest

MONTREAL (CP) — Royanor Diome, chief of the Mohawk Indian tribe at nearby Caughnawaga, has sent a letter to the federal cabinet protesting that Quebec court officials have violated Indian rights granted in 1763 by King George III.

In a letter to Prime Minister Diefenbaker and Justice Minister Fulton, Chief Diome said the 1763 proclamation is a supreme law as far as Iroquois rights are concerned.

"In the past," the letter said, "the department of Indian Affairs Indian agency in Caughnawaga has allowed Quebec bailiffs with the provincial police to serve documents in the name of Elizabeth II, which is an illegal practice.

"I am sure, you as Her Majesty's representatives in Canada are aware that Caughnawaga being an Iroquois reservation cannot be Her Majesty's property. Consequently, the Queen's bailiffs or law officers have no more jurisdiction on our territory than they would in the United States, Cuba or Russia."

OTTAWA (UPI) — Citizenship minister Ellen Fairclough, who is responsible for Indian affairs, informed chieftains at the Six Nations Reserve yesterday that "steps will be taken without delay to restore and maintain peace and order."

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Reds Vow: Free City, Free Road

BERLIN (AP)—Russia and Communist East Germany promised Wednesday they would keep the road open between West Berlin and the outside world if West Berlin becomes a free city.

But they indicated the price they would demand for such guarantees would be western diplomatic recognition of the satellite East German regime.

The latest word on the Berlin crisis came in a communique issued by the East German government as Soviet Premier Khrushchev ended a visit to East Germany.

The communique also urged a quick summoning of a summit conference to ease international tension.

TCA Planning To Centralize Reservations

MONTREAL (CP) — Trans-Canada Air Lines yesterday announced it has placed first-stage orders for an electronic reservations system, the first of its kind in the world.

The airline said the new system will reduce by 60 per cent the more than 3,500,000 separate transactions now required in handling reservations every month. It is expected to be operating by January, 1962.

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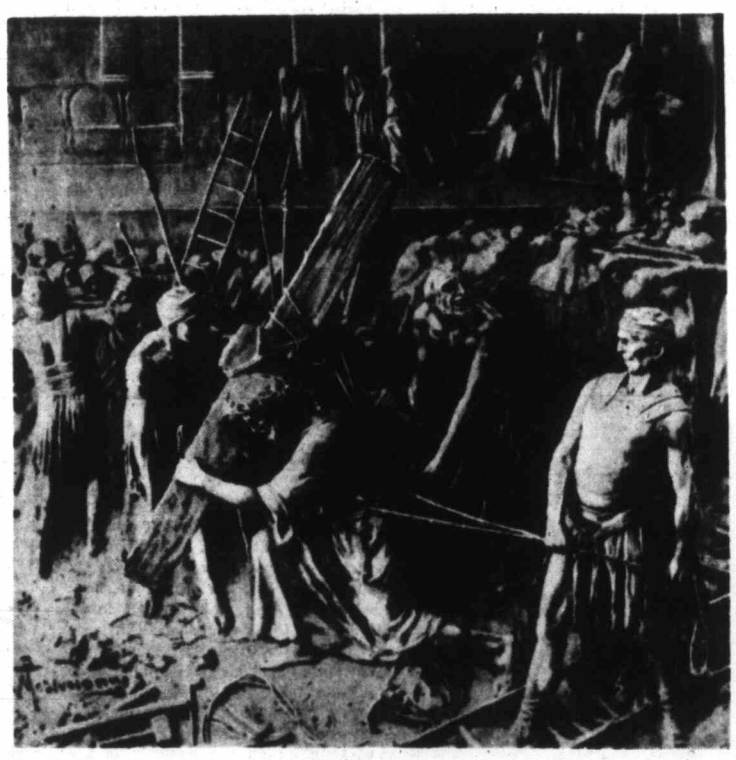

The First Easter

BY PETER MARSHALL

Beautifully told in moving prose, here is the full poignant story of Christ's last days on earth. In words which make it seem as though they happened yesterday, Peter Marshall tells of the last supper, Christ's agony in the garden, Peter's denial, the trial before Pilate and the Crucifixion. In three superbly illustrated episodes in this week's Star Weekly, you can read this story which has inspired men for nearly 2000 years.

WHAT'S NEW IN BOATS FOR '59?
With more and more of us succumbing to the lure of the water, you'll want to know everything about the '59 boats. In this week's Star Weekly the 16 page color section gives you a complete roundup of the boating delights in store for you this summer.

THE MARRIED LIVES OF THE DIONNES
Now happily married with children of their own, two of the Dionne quints have settled down away from the stare of publicity. See them in the picture section of this week's Star Weekly.

there is so much to hold your interest in this week's

STAR WEEKLY

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